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# SOUTH AMERICA.

The Struggle for the Domination of La Plata Valley.

### Plottings for the Paraguay War.

Enfortunately for the Oriental republic General artolome Mitre, President of the Argentine repubmbitious of military honors, and who, as Goveror of Buenos Avres, had so hostilized the Oriental nistration, wished to carry war into Paraguay to mend the error of the campaign of Beigrano, upon which he had long meditated preparatory to writing his history. He commenced by launching the candillo General Venancio Flores into Uruguay as a future auxillery lores betraying his protector, General Urquiza ad fought at the head of the cavalry in the battles of Cepeda and Pavon, when Buenos Ayres was ose troops were led by the conqueror at Caseros.

The Oriental government, being informed of these attempts of the Argentines to again kindle civil war in Uruguay, gave orders to form a body of 600 men as a corps of observation to be stationed to the north of the Rio Negro, while they aske I the motives which mimated such a political movement and that all

cause for complaint should be removed.

The false securities given by General Mitre's agents induced Berro to disarm his troops in March

On April 16 General Venancio Flores, with three companions and several loads of money, left Buenos Ayres, and on the 18ta or 19th of the same month ed upon the shore of the river Uruguay a little we the mouth of the Rio Negro. There he gathered horses and marched porthward to the river Cuarain, almost without being no-ticed, to place himself at the head of 300 men, who on the 24th of April took possession of the from the frontier provinces of Uruguavana and of Rio Grande and to the Argentine province of Cor rientes, where under protection of the authorities

Then commenced the raids of Flores over the ntire Banda Oriental, which by its peculiar topoarfare. The force, which was increased by Brazihan recruits and by renegade sons of the country, who had nothing to lose in the warfare, was successful here and routed them, but always found protection upon the Brazilian frontier, where they ex. changed their stolen and worn down horses for fat ones, at the rate of two for one, with the Brazilian

Buenos Ayres put in play all her resources to ald the guerrillero. In her capital was the hendquarters of the revolutionary Colorado Committee, which pub-licly collected funds and purchased arms, which reached Fiores by Argentine vessels of war. Hostilities became so manifest that the Oriental men-of-war were detained at the island of Martin Garcia, which at the mouth of the river Uruguay, to intercept all communication between Montevideo and the towns of Palsandu and Salto under pretext that the apture of an armed Buenos Ayrean steamer which was carrying arms and supplies to the rebels had offended Argentine sovereignty. Every class of hosflity was received by the Oriental government from the Argentine Republic, although under protest of At Salto they loaned to Flores the steamer Guale-guay, which hoisted the Oriental flag during the bombardment of the town, rehoisting the Argentine flag eight days after, when her services were no longer needed. Through his own power Flores was

one master of the ground upon which he stood. The government, which felt the united blows of razii and the Argentine Republic, sent a commis-ion to the government of Paraguay, which had atit of General Mitre to the unjustifiable acts place in the Oriental State in violation of neutrality. The Argentine government took very

rades upon his government and people.

The Oriental mission had no result for the moment except to give notice of the hostilities waged by the

eighboring governments.
The raids of Piores were upon the point of being partisans disbanding and disconnected, his attempted revolution was virtually defeated.

The government of the country had continued working well. At the expiration of the Presidential assumed the Chief Magistracy according to the fun-

In the meantime Brazil and Buenos Ayres feared that Flores might be driven from Uruguay. The Rio Grande deputies of the former Power made a direct application to their government to aid Fiores, for, if defeated, the 2,000 Brazilians who accompanied

him would be turned over to the vengeance of the Blancos.

The Consejero Savaira, accredited in this epoch in extraordinary commission to the Rio de la Piatu, acriated the Oriental State with a series of revolutionary movements. This government represented to him that Brazil had adhered to the resolutions of the Congress of Paris, and, without result, proposed to submit to arbitration all questions existing between the two governments.

The government of Paraguay here offered its mediation, which was rejused. Senor Savaira carried with him a prearranged plan and would not change it. He roughly broke with the Oriental government as a first step to forward the plans of the empire-wrongs the Brazilian squadron entered the Uruguay river, captured a few small Oriental vessels and out off all communication between the government and the garrisons which were holding the towns of Paisanui and Salto, arainst which, somewhat later, were to be levelled the forces of the empire. Orders were given to the

Uruguay river, captured a few small Oriental vessels and out off all communication between the government and the garrisons which were holding the towns of Palsanda and Salto, against which, somewhat later, were to be levelled the forces of the empire. Orders were given to the Brazilian army of Rio Grande to invade Oriental territory, and the most decided protection was given to Flores, the cauditio, who alone was powerless to reduce his country to a state of vassalage.

Fresident Lopez, of Paraguay, being well informed of Brazilian tendences, protested in a note of Angust 30, 1861, declaring to the imperial government that he would consider it a cossus besti if the Brazilian forces invaded the Banda Oriental, and would, in consequence, take such measures as the interests of Paraguay demanded; for he locked upon the absolute independence of the States of La Plata as a necessity to the political existence of his country.

During the question of limits between Brazil and Paraguay in 1856 the empire had intended to settle the difficulties by force of arms and without the aid of the Argentine Republic. At that date President Lopez knew well the importance of the understanding existing between the Brazilian Legation and General Mitre to sink the Oriental nationality. He knew well that the consequences would be most disastrous for his country, sixt up in the interior of South America and having its only ontiet to the world dominated at its mouth by a powerful empire.

Brazil, which saw within its grasp the opportunity to satisfy its old pretensions of Hmiting Paraguay torking bessession of the fort of Humaits, laughed at the protest of Lopez, and invading Uruguay took possession of the fort of Humaits, laughed at the protest of Country, Miranda, Albuquerque and other points of Upper Paraguay, but the steamer Marquis of Ollinda, then en route for Matto-Grosso, and lollowing this she invaded that province, taking possession of fort Combra, Miranda, Albuquerque and other points of Upper Paraguay, but the capture of the

assault, and the government of Montevideo made strenuous efforts to aid the defenders.

Both General Mitre and the Brazilian Minister Paranhos well knew that no time should be lost, for they had eiready heard of the movements of Lopez and that he was organizing his army to march to the aid of Uruguay as in defence of his own cause. The squadron which had so prodigally used its ammunition had no means of continuing the bombardment for twenty-four hours longer. On account of this also the imperial army, which was, by forced marches, to arrive at the besieged city in the last week of December, would also be paralyzed. To ask munitions from Ro Janeiro demanded fifteen days time at least, which would be improved by the Oriental government and would give rise to numerous and unknown complications. General Mitre, solicited by Paranhos, met the difficulty by placing at the disposal of the imperial feet the Argentine ports. From shere, from the port of Buenos Ayres, which sometimes calls itself a sister republic, came the munitions of war which overthrew the city of Paysanda and killed many of its defenders.

The bulwark of Oriental Independence fell at last after the last cartridge of the defenders was exhausted. The Oriental flag, which had floated gloriously over the garrison, was lowered by the hand of Flores to give place to that of Brazil, and that ignominy might perform its complete work on that unfortunate day, the caudillo, pliant tool of the empire, shot General Leandro Gomez and the chiefs who survived the struggle.

The Oriental government gathered in Montevideo all the elements of war which were at its disposal to the south of the Rio Negro. It raised strong walls, and organizing a powerful body of troops sent them under General Basillo Muñoz to make a diversion in the province of Rio Grande.

The oriental government contact strong walls, and organizing a powerful body of troops sent them to mean of the Rio Grande, and the selements of resistance. The garrison were full of spirit and vigor. They were reanim

reanimated by the happy initiation of the Rio Grande campaint by General Munoz, and the assurances transmitted by the President of Paraguay determined them to make strenuous efforts for their independence.

President Lopez asked permission to pass his army through the desert Argentine territory of Misiones, that he might the better make war against his adversary and favor the Oriental republic. The Argentine government, which had conceded to the Brazitian government the navigation of its rivers and the use of its coasts for supplies and for deposits of coal, denied the solicitation of Lopez. The change of these notes gave time for the solution of matters in Montevideo.

Unfortunately the constitutional period of Señor Aguirre, "President of the Senate in exercise of the Executive Power," terminated February 15; and in accordance with the constitution, Thomas Villalba, a man of recognized bad character and dishked by the army, succeeded him in office through the majority given by a single vote.

Villalba, whose ritimate relations with the Brazilian Bank of Mari y Ca. were well known, sent to the enemy's camp Dr. Manuel Herrera y Obes, who, also, on more than one occasion, had had connections with the imperial legations. He immediately agreed with the Minister, Paranhos, to surrender the city without conditions. This surrender took place on the 20th February, 1885.

The garrison were not aware of the treason of their chief until late at night. Some of the officers of the line, gathered on the 21st to consult on the situation, learned at the same time the order to disarm, and that the guards of the naval stations had occupied the fort to comply with the treasonable orders of Villalba. The traitorous act was consummated. The guard surrendered their arms, the most noted among them expatriating themselves. Among these were some whose persons had been demanded by the empire for insulting themselves.

The Ruperor decreed a medal of honor to his army for the campaign of Unique, and that there may be no doubt that a grea

brought the Paraguay troops to the scene of any struggie.

While the Brazilian army was encamped at Montevideo receiving reinforcements for the war against Paraguay President Lopez convoked a general Congress and submitted to its deliberations the motives existing for just complaint against the Argentine government for inferred hostility against Paraguay. The Marshal, receiving authority, declared war against the government of Mitte on the 25th of March. For the Argentine Republic this was a surprise. The Brazilian army was not yet formed, and the squadron had not left the Parans nor appeared

the squadron had not left the Parana nor appeared to be in a condition to do so. The Argentine army scarcely numbered 4,000 troops of the line. Thus Lopez refused any middle course, and gave the Argentine statesmen no opportunity to entertain him white they prepared for war.

Mitre was not blind to the fact that the people of Buenos Ayres, and especially those of the interior provinces, saw with disquiet the preponderance which the empire was taking in La Plata valley by the destruction of legal order in the Banda Oriental. Able in intrigue and stratagem for the occasion, he awaited the Paraguayan declaration of war, left the city and province of Corrientes without defence, and, as if to tempt his enemy, left exposed in the port and subject to capture two small war steamers.

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The 14th April the Paraguay army invaded the Argentine territory by the Paso de la Patria, while at the same time four Paraguayan steamers attacked and seized the two Argentine vessels above mentioned. Tals was doubtless the desire of Mitre-that the public spirit of the republic, manifestly adverse to Brazil, might be turned in favor of the war. The news reached Buenos Ayres the 20th instant. The entire press classified the act as a piracy without example and without a previous deciaration of war. To make it still more odious it invoked the clauses of an old treaty which stupulated that no war should be declared without six months? notice.

Every measure was taken to excite the people. The friends of the government walked the streets advocating war and the necessity of avenging the insult to the national dag. President Mitre stirred the hearts of the people with those memorable words which have covered him with ridicule both in his own and foreign countries—"Twenty-four hours at the Cuartel; two weeks of campaign; three months to Asuncton!"

The alliance with the empire had been agreed upon

which have covered him with ridicule both in his own and fereign countries—"Treenty-four hours at the Cuartel; two weeks of campaign; three months to Asuncton!"

The alliance with the empire had been agreed upon a long time previous to the fall of Montevideo, as Senhor Paranhos revealed in the legislative chambers of Brazil, and as we shall see later in the examination of dates. It was kept secret to await the favorable moment when its publication would not wound the susceptibilities of the people. Thus, when the invasion of Cortientes by Paraguay was declared an act of piracy many of the opposers of Brazil accepted the alliance as a necessity that they might avenge the linsuit to the Argentine fag.

But the secret treaty of alliance made public in the Parliament of Great Britain, that treaty which, while speaking of the territorial integrity of Paraguay, usurps 144,000 square miles upon the right bank of the Paraguay river, 22,500 miles in the Oriental Majones of the Parana that treaty, which deceltfully protests respect for the independence of that republic while it refuses to treat for peace with its legitumate government, but promises to establish there a satisfactory government; that treaty which, while it demolishes fortifications, makes booky of all armaments and munitions of war and imposes contributions, even to the payment of three hundred to four hundred millions of war and imposes contributions, even to the payment of three hundred to four hundred millions of war and imposes contributions, even to the payment of three hundred to four hundred millions of war and imposes contributions, even to the payment of three hundred to four hundred millions of war and imposes contributions, even to the payment of three hundred to four hundred millions of war and imposes contributions, even to the payment of three hundred to four hundred millions of war and impose contributions, even to the payment of three hundred to four hundred millions of war and impose contributions, even to the payment of three hundred to f

material of war into Upper Paraguayan bands 160 pieces of artillery and munitions of war into Upper Paraguayan bands 160 pieces of artillery and munitions of war into the much of it was thrown into the lock of means for transportation.

St December, 1964, the imperial squadron for Tamandaré commenced the blockade of Paysandé, aiready besieged by Flores with the assistance of the Argentine and the presence of Brazilian merced the bombardment of the city. It must be presence of Brazilian merced the bombardment of the city. It must be presence of Brazilian merced the bombardment of the city. It must be presence of Brazilian merced the bombardment of the city. It must be presence of Brazilian merced the bombardment of the city. It must be presence of Brazilian may it was a triste glory: it be exercise of firing at a mark. Under the Brazilian may is was a triste glory: it be exercise of firing at a mark. Under the guns of the feet and assisted of marines, who were landed to Flores attempted an assault, which ted with considerable loss. The squadron its bumbarament day by day until its were exhausted. The garrison of for men and. Flores and not care to make another

rendered him by Brazil. The empire gave to Flores, as a Brazilian general, a monthly subvention of \$30,000 in gold (see Department of Foreign Relations), which was faithfully paid for the space of two years, even after the Oriental contingent had ceased to exist and Flores had retired from the field. For this sum Brazil bought the services of 4,000 men. Had she paid the price that it cost her to put her negroes into the field hey would have cost her \$5,000,000 for the same term of service. Flores, to comply with his compromise with the empire, placed Uruguay under a small force of Colorulos, and gathering 4,000 men, his opposers in the political field, tied many of them together with cords and drove them under a powerful armed escort to be delivered on board the Brazil ian fleet, which transported them up the river to swell the ranks of the army. Of these 4,000 Orientals there remain to-day scarcely 300. Their comrades have died in the campaign against Paraguay.

Here I have given you the Oriental history to the date of the Paraguayan war. The great underlying idea of the Argentine statesman, as the Cabinet member Elizaide has informed a British Minister, is the restoration of the limits of the old vice royalty, including Bolivia, Paraguay and Uruguay—truly an impossible dream when we consider the opposition of Brazil to such a scheme and the topographical nature of Bolivia, which belongs to the Amazon instead of the Plata valley and holds a distinct people within its limits. Uruguay is also beyond the reach of this territorial idea, for the reason that it is already a conquered province of imperial Brazil. It has no hope of regalning its lost Independence for the present, its only and transient opportunity will be when the Allied Powers commence their inevitable quarret over the spoils of Paraguay in case of her complete conquest, or, when the new Argentine government, fully awakened to the national suicide they committed by the infamous treaty with the empire, withdering the properity to Eastern South America

### MEXICO.

Excitement Over Railway Matters-Peace General—Minatitian Telegraph Company— Jalapa Railway. VERA CRUZ, Oct. 15, 1868.

The action of Congress on the Mexico and Vera Crnz Railroad bill has caused the greatest agitation in the public mind here and has raised such a clamo everywhere along the projected line that the opposi-tion are somewhat alarmed, and its leader, Zamacona, is now endeavoring to patch up some compre mise; as yet with no success; but such is the state of popular feeling that some arrangement will doubtless be effected. There is an immense deal of poverty and suffering between this city and the capital, which would be relieved by an early resumption of work on the road. At the same time the local trade, upon which so many depend for a subsistence, is at a standstill; and the action of Congress under such circumstances has caused an indignation which may break out into something serious if it is not soothed. The opposition is based upon antagonism to the Executive and to the introduction of foreign capital and enterprise, at all times two of the strongest principles in the breast of Maxicans.

The general condition of the country seems peaceful enough, save occasional instances of capture for ransom and robbery. Still, business does not revive, and though the long anticipated epoch of peace is upon us no improvement is visible. This port is bare of vessels and only a very few are expected; indeed, we are entirely indebted to the regular lines of steamers for what little apparent activity exists.

We hear nothing of the Tchuantopec road, and the new company seem to be in no hurry to commence its work.

The Minatitian Telegraph Company, having received all the necessary material, will at once commence the construction of the line.

The Jalapa road has resumed work, having negotiated in Mexico the \$50,000 granted by the State of Vera Cruz. It will be finished to Paso de Ovejas in December. The Medellin line is to be continued to Paso del Toro. The American steamer due since the 13th is just in sight. A very heavy norther has blown during the past few days, but no disasters have occurred.

Trouble Between the General Government tina—Indian Depredations—Robberies. HAVANA, Oct. 29, 1508.

By the arrival at this port, on the morning of the 18th, of the French steamer Louisane, we have dates from the capital to the 10th and Vera Cruz to the 15th. The Louisane encountered a violent storm and arrived forty-eight hours behind her time. The relations between the government and the Legisla-ture of the State of Mexico are not of the most cordial character. An opposition has been formed against Arévalo, the Secretary, and charges have Grand Jury. Et Progreso of Vera Cruz in its issue of the 15th inst. eays:—"Jose Martinez de la Concha, Governor of the State of Mexico, has temporarily re-

Governor of the State of Mexico, has temporarily retired from that office in consequence of lilness, and
Antonio Timbroso, President of the Superior Court, is
exercising the functions until Congress shall appoint
a successor."

The new Governor of San Luis Potosi, instead of
exercising his constitutional right in the appointment
of polifical chiefs of the districts, has called on the
Agreements to make nominations therefor, an
act which has been well received by the people. He
has also requested the Legislature to do away
with certain government officers of no practical
utility. The mines of Catorces and other places are with certain government officers of no practical utility. The mines of Catorees and other places are showing the good effects of protection and enforcement of the laws and commerce is reviving. General Escobedo has gone to Tampico, doubtiess with a view of settling the disturbances in Tamaulipes. Cortina, it is said, will soon return to Matamoros, when he will take active part upon the one side or the other, in any disturbances which may occur there.

there.

In Oaxaes, upon the petition of a large number of parishioners in the various districts, the political chiefs have granted the privilege of religious pro-

chiefs have granted the privilege of religious pro-cessions.

The Indians are active in Chihuahua, and the in-habitants were organizing to put a stop to their depredations.

The authorities of the State of Sonora have peti-tioned the general government for the establish-ment of military colonies on the frontier to repress the periodical incursions of the Indians, who have been very active of late, killing miners and driving off stock.

Robberies are reported in Puebla, Michoacan, Guerrero, San Luis Potosi, Sonora and Nueva Leon.

Something Wrong in the Trensury Depart ment—The Vera Cruz Railway Still—No Export Duty on Metals Except Gold and Silver—Other Tariff Amendments—Arrests of Ex-Imperialists—Drainage of the Valley— Cariosities Discovered.

MEXICO CITY, Oct. 10, 1869. MEXICO CITY, Oct. 10, 1868.

There has occurred of late a newspaper discussion as to the actual amount of revenue raised during the last fiscal year. Mr. Juan Zambrano, a gentleman of Mexican birth and education, but who has tra-States, and who is also known as a statistician, has charge of the Department of Nationalization or sale of Church property. He has been furnishing the press with some data, from which it is argued that there is a deficiency of about \$6,000,000 in the revenue during the last fiscal year; that the Appro priation bill passed by the last Congress called for \$18,000,000, and that only \$12,000,000 has been realized. Recent data, published a day since, show a deficiency of \$29,261 17 during the three months deficiency which may have existed during the same three months of the fiscal year of 1867. This refers sealed paper, principal district taxes and district contributions. As is natural, the revelations made by Mr. Zambrano have seriously disturbed the com-mercial portion of the community and has called out a full statistical report from the chief officer of the sixth section of the Treasury Department. This officer claims that Mr. Zam-brano has failed to credit the proper sums to the various departments which receive taxes and revenue, and as corrected by the former a fair case is made out.

The finance report of Minister Matias Romero, Sec-

retary of the Treasury, was presented to Congress a few days since. As it shows the condition of the Treasury during the first year after the re-establishment of the republic, the foreign reader may be able to form some opinion as to the efficiency of its au-thor and the prospect for Mexico's future. Congress

has been too busily engaged upon the railroad question to give its attention to the report, and the press, so far, has remained silent.

The Cabinet is evidently now a unit, Mr. Lerdo being fully installed again as Minister of Foreign Relations, and, so far as is known, all the departments are now acting in harmony. Notwithstanding the fact that the majority of Congress failed to confirm the act of Juarez in conceding the grant to the Mexico and Vera Cruz Railroad Company there is no particular manifestation against the President and Cabinet, nor any particular expressions of dissatisfaction. The fact that the President has been successful in suppressing the revolutions which from time to time have broken out in different states seems to have queted the restless politicians and ambitious generals, who, six months since, were quietly nodding at revolution, and who were believed to be in correspondence with revolutionizing and ambitious generals, who, six months since, were quietly nodding at revolution, and who were believed to be in correspondence with revolutionizing chiefs who are now suffering for the crime of not having succeeded in their enors to subvert the government. The latter may consider it the solemn

duty of their sly confederates in this capital, and it may be in Congress, to secure pardons for them and send them to their mountain fastnesses, in order that they may return to the walks of quiet life, be good citizens and prepare themselves for the next election. The army, which is paid fifteen days in advance, its apparently happy and desires no particular change of government, as it is exceedingly doubtful if another administration, and especially a revolutionary one, would pay them as satisfactorily. However much the government of the United States may be a military one, it cannot be denied that the soldier has much to do in sustaining the present condition of this country, and the argument is well put by Mr. Romero in als finance report, that when the country is restored to absolute peace then the army may be diminished and the money now appropriated to their payment be employed in paying the interest on the public debt. It is impossible to do otherwise than commend that portion of the report of Mr. Romero which discusses the means for giving employment to the immense idle population of the country; and if the will of the Congress and the condition of the Treasury are equal to the emergency, Mexico may surprise the world by its advancement. On the other hand, there is no abatement of kidnappings and assaults and the irruption of petty revolutions which afflict the body politic. It is not be leved that the revolution in Tamanlipas can long afflict that State, and suspected parties are closely watched in other States in order to prevent any new difficulties. By an earnest application of the military to such bands as may infest known districts it is hoped that property and life may be rendered more secure. The Commission in charge of the formation of the new Tariff bill are now hard at work, and I understand that the bill which they intend to recommend will impose no export duty on copper or other metals except gold and silver; on the former the tax will probably be two to two and a half per cent, and upon

of the State, and that the latter has a right to demand the return from Dominguez of the money taken.

General Gonzales Ortega is in Saltillo.

By a decree of the President the port of Lobos, in the State of Sonora, was opened to the customary coasting trade on the oth of October, 1868.

The candidates for the different gubernatorial, judicial and other offices of the new State of Hidalgo are abundant, but as they are comparatively unknown abroad, except, perhaps, General Benevides, I do not mention them.

Mr. Limantour, of California notoriety, has been enjoying a prison for the last six or seven days, to which he was ordered by one of the judges of this city. It is stated that this is the result of prosecutions made by Mr. Jouan, an American citizen, who has stated that he was swindled, robbed and imprisened by Mr. Limantour for two and a half years, aided by General Diego Alvarez.

Colonel Figueroa, late of the Imperial army, and commanding the cavalry at Vera Cruz during the siege a year ago, is a prisoner here in Santa Teresa. Colonel Uraga, son of General Uraga, has also been arrested for serving the empire and has been sent out of the country. From the State of Genereo, the late news from its capital and from Zumpango del Rio was to the effect that in the coming election a large portion of the people desired that another person than Alvarez should be named as Governor, as the people could not be properly represented if he held that position at the time of the election.

Mr. Edward Perry is reported to have received his nomination as agent of the English bondholders in Mexico.

Cortina has left for Matamoros, and, it is said,

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Cortina has left for Matamoros, and, it is said, will organize a command for frontier service.

In the State of Jalisco, near Zapotlanego, sixteen of the government troops were recently attacked by 200 "pronunciados," who cricd, "Fied el Emperador Introfide! Viva el Santa Amal Death to the liberais!"

In the vicinity of Zumpango a dozen leagues from this city, where engineering operations are now in progress, with the view to drain the valley of Mexica, some recent excavations have revealed in the same bed of tertiary formation the skeletons of a wild boar, man, and an immense animal, possibly of the Saurian family or the Pachydermata. Pieces of bone which I have seen from the vertibra were about the size of a haif-gation dyster keg. The long bones are of great size and the head said to be as large as a haif-barrel. I shall visit the locality and furnish you with a complete account of it. I am informed that there are indications that the bones of the three different animals portained to different centuries, and that the accident of their being found together resulted from their having been mashed into the place where they were found possibly by currents which at some early day must have been flowing rapidly out of the valley of Mexico at Zumpango.

More of this hereafter.

The decree of Congress ordering the construction of a wagon road from the city of Durango to Mazician has been published. The expenses will be made out of the national treasury, and appropriation having been made of \$50,000 per annum.

In the State of Oaxaca, which is quiet, the squadron of public security has been abandoned as a matter of economy.

In regard to General Canto, who is to be tried for his life, it is not a ond symptom that he is hold a prisoner by the police in the town where his own troops are stationed.

The Degris during the construction of a railway from the city of Pu

suppressed.

The Diario Oficial informs the commerce in general that it is not the intention of the government to change the Custom House rate of duties for some time, and that, therefore, all kinds of commercial transactions can be made without any fear of sudden change. Of the seven Indian chiefs who lately vised Vera Cruz from the Sierra of Puebla the oldest was 104 years of age and the youngest sixty-four.

## THE PANAMA SHIP CANAL.

We lay before the public to-day a most interesting and practical scheme for the opening of a grand ship canal through the Isthmus of Panama or some other point of Central America, to which we invite the attention of the American and all other governments. The plan recommends itself above all others hitherto brought to public notice by the great principles of international justice and equality on which it is based, as well as by the adequacy of the means which are proposed for the completion of the work. It contemplates the opening by the joint co-opera-tion of all the nations of the world of an ample channel of ship communication between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, and securing it from all liability of ever falling into the hands of any one nation by giv ing to each nation a share, a common proprietary right to the country through which it is to pass, as well as to its sovereignty under the enactment of new international laws—in a word, to make the new international laws—in a word, to make the canal an open narrow sea, as little liable to inter-ruption in principle and in fact as the ocean itself. The schemes which have recently been attempted fall in these essential requirements. Every plan that does not embrace the principles of common international equality and justice will be defeated. Nor, indeed, can the means be found to execute the work without placing it on a basis so large, liberal and these remarks we recommend to the serious consideration of our statesmen in power, and those who are to succeed, the well studied and clearly elaborated plan of Mr. Niles, communicated to the govern-ment at Washington several years ago, while he was its Minister in upper Italy, and submitted to the Senate by President Fillmore:-

its Minister in upper Italy, and submitted to the Senate by President Filimore:—

Turn, June 30, 1849.

Six—The extraordinary development of commerce between the Atlantic and Pacific oceans, which is to be a necessary and immediate consequence of the rapid settlement of the northwest coast of the American Continent, from California to Vancouver's island, by an active and enterprising population, gives an increasing and pressing interest to the great subject of a ship canal between the two oceans, not only to the United States, but also to the whole commercial world. Were such a channel to be opened on a scale commensurate with its present and prospective importance, it is probable that before the lapse of any great length of time the amount of commercial transactions through it would be greater than has at any time been carried on through the Straits of Gibralitar.

The magnitude of the commercial interests to be affected by this artificial medium of commenciation through all time to come presents an unanswerable reason why the work should be executed upon a most extensive scale.

It is evident that such a channel of commercial communication should not enure to the exclusive advantage of any one nation, or to any limited number of nations, or be subjected to the Hability of interruption by the eventualities of war. It should be a common international thoroughfare, always open and always free on equal terms, to the commerce of all nations, great and small, the weak as well as the powerful, those nations that are situated at remote distances as well as those in its immediate vicinity. To secure these objects it is necessary that it should be constructed by means of a common fund and erectively placed under the guardianship of a universally acknowledged law of nations. As yet no plan has been presented to the public which at the same time suggests a practical means for the seconsplishment of this great object on a scale that is likely to meet the wants of the commercial world and secure to all nations a common and

ble scale, yet in view of the implied rights of others and the jealousies and ultimate hostility which could not fail to be engendered among other nations, were it to be carried through as an exclusively national work, an elevated sense of internal justice, as well as a wise policy, requires that it should not be taken in hand without previously extending an invita ion to all the commercial nations of the earth to become joint proprietors and to patticipate in its construction under such circumstances of equitable contribution to the object as will give to it the character of being a common property and a common passage open to all upon such conditions as shall forever prevent the work from becoming obstructed or failing in the hands of any one government or combination

tion to the object as will give to it the character of being a common property and a common passage open to all upon such conditions as shall forever prevent the work from becoming obstructed or failing in the hands of any one government or combination of governments.

The only way to insure that paramount object is to make the whole matter of this proposed canal the subject of an international treaty, in which the governments of all the commercial countries in the world shall be invited to become parties.

In view of the foregoing considerations of international equity, and in regard to the establishment of a practical administration for the execution and preservation of this work under the common authority of nations, i have drawn up, after mature reflection, a plan which seems to me well calculated to meet all the requirements of the case. It is embraced in the form of a series of propositions, each resting on reasons that will be apparent to every refecting mind. This plan I solicit the honor herewith to submit to the consideration of the Fresident, and trust it whin not be found unworthy of his attention and approval. In the summer of 1847 I had the honor to read this scheme to the late Fresident and Secretary of State, both of whom I beheve were favorably struck with it, but it has not in any way been given to the public, and I now submit it to the government in the hope that it may receive that consideration in the coming Congressional discusions on this general subject, or lie executive action upon it, to which it may be thought to be entitled.

It appears to me, sir, that the character of the American government cannot be exhibited with a more exalted and honorable light than by taxing the lead in proposing any practical plan for a vast ship communication between the two oceans, the advantages of which it designs shall become common and perpetual to all countries. Such an example of ab-negation of selfish and exclusive interests would be the more striking and admirable when exhibited by a great and pow

respective plenipotentiaries at — to enter into negotiations for the conclusion of a joint convention to that effect with the United States.

Although the above propositions do not include all the stipulations, the introduction of which might be required in the proposed convention, yet the general scope of the undertaking, the means for its execution, as well as the mode of initiaring and bringing about the prerequisite negotiations are, I flatter myself, sufficiently clear and explicit.

The present would seem to be an appropriate time for a candid and prompt consideration of the subject by the governments of Europe, as the prospect of carrying through an enterprise fraught with consequences so favorable to the rapid extension of Christian civilization throughout the Eastern hemisphere and the opening of so many new and prolific sources of private wealth and general public prosperity would in no small degree serve to divert the excited and distempered popular mind of Europe from the pursuit of those visionary and impracticable political theories, so dangerous to the whole fabric of society, now so prevalent in this part of the world.

If, sir, in presenting this scheme I have stepped beyond the strict line of my diplomatic duties I trust an ample apology will be found in the importance of the subject, to which the administration cannot be indifferent.

I have the honor to be, sir, with renewed expres-

indifferent.

I have the honor to be, sir, with renewed expression of respectful consideration, your obedient servant,

NATHANIEL NILES.

Hon. JOHN M. CLAYTON, Secretary of State.

Movements of the Alex. Petion and Maratanza-Salnave's Operations Against Jere-mic, Miragoane, Aux Cayes-Counter Foci-

HAVANA, Oct 24, 1868. HAVANA, Oct 24, 1868. Your correspondent at Port au Prince, under date

of the 9th, writes as follows:—
The steamer Maratanza left here on the night of the 6th inst. and arrived before Jeremie the next day, where it met the Alex. Petion, on board of which was Sainave. On the morning of the 5th the President went on board of the Maratanza, the necessary papers were passed and the vessel became the property of the Haytlan government and assumed Haytian colors. It is now styled Salnave. She is commanded by Lieutenant Huggins, formerly an American naval officer, who came here on the Alex. Petron as executive officer. She arrived here tals morning but will return again to-night.

causing considerable destruction and silencing the forts. After the Sainave was transferred she shelled the town with her 100-pound Parrot, causing a deal of damage. The town is surrounded on the land side by the troops of Sainave, and if a capitulation does not take place to-day a general attack will be made to-morrow by land and sea, and the town must either surrender or be completely destroyed. The President expects to return here on Friday, the 11th instant. As soon as Jeremie is reduced Merogoane and Aux Cayes are to be attacked, and the latter

been nominated as President in the North, and sissago Saget in the South. It seems as though the revolutionists comprehended that the resistance to Sainave's power would be indefinitely prolonged, and therefore had named provisional precidents. The nomination of Dominguez is important, inasmuch as it is hoped that he will be able to bring over the troops known as the "Psquetea," of which he was a long time chief and without the aid of which Sainave would, ere this, have been compelled to succond. Meanwhile the Psquetes are laying slege to this city, although they have been beaten every time the troops have made a gaily they still persevere, hoping that hunger will eventually compel a surrender. This city has suffered a great loss in the deain of General J. Rebeca Hector, who died in consequence of a wound received when retiring from the slege of Port au Prince.

The revolutionists feel the greatest indignation towards the United States for what they style her assistance to Sainave in the matter of the gunboats. The Pétion is exceeded to visit various ports on the coast with a view of reducing them. She will have considerable to do, as all the ports, including this one, are strongly fortided and ready to receive the steamer.

The condition of the country may be summed up

considerable to do, as all the ports, including this steamer.

The condition of the country may be summed up as follows:—In the South the principal cities favor the revolution and are besiezed by the Salnave "Piquetes," and in the North all the strongholds except St. Marc favor Salnave and are besieged by the Cacos revolutionsts. In the centre Salnave occupies Port an Prince, and within a few miles of the city there is a revolutionary force under Generals John Lynch and Petion Faubert. This force is the one which formerly besieged Port an Prince, but was compelled to retire because it was not strong enough to assault the city. On the other hand, Salnave is too feeble to risk a battle, and so remains within the walls in the firm hope that the "Petion" will give him the victory. It is difficult to tell the ultimate result of this frightful warfare which from day to day is devasting the country. It can be safely said, however, that Salnave will never be able to suppress the revolution. He may sustain himself for a long time and destroy the country stogether, but the revolution will finally succeed in overthrowing him. It should be born in mind that the partisans of Salnave are mostly the canalite, and it is impossible to triumph with such elements.

#### ST. DOMINGO.

Arrival of the Papal Nuncio-State of the Church in St. Domingo-Pontifical Efforts to Redeem it—Steamship Matters—Mining Survey—An Incident—Trade,
Sr. Domingo, Oct. 9, 1868.

Religion and steam enterprise have of late each presented its accredited ambassador to the Domini-can Republic, and both have been received with duc usideration by the Baez Cabinet. The former comes in the person of the most reverend Apostolic Vicar Louis de Buggenoms, and the latter, of the very energetic Judge Sullivan. The arrival of the Papa Nuncio has created quite a sensation here, as it is likely to have a great induence, both upon the religious and secular destinies of the republic. To a full understanding of this a brief resume of the

Church history in the Island is necessary.

When San Domingo became independent of the mother country her clergy cast loose many of the ties which bound them to the Spanish Church, and the religious institutions of the country, already sorely perverted, were debased by all the vices and follies growing out of anarchy. Schools worthy of the name ceased to exist, the charen edifices and institutions of charity sunk to rain and the clergy as a class became so demoralized that the friars of models of purity, were compelled to cry out against the loose morals and bad Latin of the Dominican priesthood and call on the head of the Church upon earth to look after his stray lambs. This was prepreferred the easy rule which custom had estab-lished—a rule satisfied with just so much Latin as the breviatries required and which in no way was interfered with such small trifles as Sunday cockfighting, incessant gambling or families of young

14. That it shall be the duty of the said commissioners to establish all needfur regulations touching the interests of the canal, and that said regulations shall be binding on the citizens or subjects of the several contracting parties and/on all other persons.

15. That no forts nor buildings of any kind shall be constructed upon the ceded territory but such as may be thought necessary by the commissioners to carry out the objects of the proposed convention.

16. That or times against persons committed within the cedenterritory shall be surned over the objects of the proposed convention.

16. That or times against persons committed within the cedenterritory shall be surned over the objects of the proposed of the contracting to the case of the contracting to the case of the contracting parties agree to their respective subjects who may have sought to avoid the payment of debts or to escape from criminal justice at home by taking refuge on the said territory.

17. It is proposed that the work be commenced as soon as a convention to that effect shall have been concurred in by seven of the principal governments—other parties being permitted to subscribe to the provisions of aid convention and to shave in the execution of the work at any period durnel is progress.

18. That the contracting parties agree to lend the aid of-their individual friendly instances, near the government and to shave in the execution of the work at any period durnel is anxious to elevate its from its present alons and to present alons made by either of the contracting parties agree to lend the aid of-their individual friendly instances, near the government appointing them respectively, until the surveys are completed and the work entered upon put that thereafter they are to be paid from the common fund.

21. That the governments signifying their assent to the common fund.

22. That the governments signifying their assent to the contracting parties agree to the propose to the maridine powers of the work.

23. That the governments signifying t

and the consequent effect of good influence and example upon the people.

The other embassy has been equally successful. Judge Sulitvan, on behalf of parties in New York and New Orleans, has closed a contract with this government for a monthly line of steamers between those cities and San Domingo, to be changed to semi-monthly hereafter, at the option of the company. A prominent feature of this enterprise is the establishment of a consting line in conscious with or lace. and New Orleans, has closed a contract with this government for a monthly line of steamers between those cities and San Domingo, to be changed to semimonthly hereafter, at the option of the company. A prominent feature of this enterprise is the establishment of a coasting line in consection with the Interest at Porto Rico on the east and with the British and Pacific steamers at the other end of the line. Again, it is expected that another of these coast steamers, on the north side, will take in Sansaria. Puerto Plata, Monto Christi and Port an Prince in Hayti, where it will connect with the French and Mexican lines as well as with the Chan steamers. This island has hitherto lett an awkward gap in the steam communication of the West Indies, but this new arrangment completes the entire circle of interchange between the Antilies, Europe and the latted states. The enterprise will be of meniculable advantage to the American and European mining companies which are organizing to work the Lominican mines. In this connection I may state that there is he reason why New England should not sapply nearly all the cotton fabrics, used an repocal America, and the Middle States send here militons case year of their provisions and other products, if the Linted States Government would bestow but a time of that interest in the advancement of her trade and introduction of her products into other chanes, so liberally bestowed by certain European hatlons.

The success of the rec an loan and the establishment of the steam line jib's well with the projected mining survey of the Dominican territory, which will be united as soon as the rains cease. I may mention here a little incident as indicative of file mining prospects in St. Dominica territory, which will be united as soon as the rains cease. I may mention here a little incident as indicative of file mining prospects in St. Dominica ferritory, which will be united as soon as the rains cease. I may recall the state proposition here so the country of the mining prospects in St. Domini

From the New Haven Journal, Oct. 30.]

On the 5th of September chares H. Samoorn, of Bridgeport, was arrested by virtue of a complaint and warrant charging him with the wiful murder of his illegitimate child. The law provides that two judges shall be necessary in trais for crimes ponishable with death, and Judge Granger and Judge Edward I. Samoord, of this city, are holding court at Daubury during the trial of Samborn. It has been testified to that the child was apparently well just previous to the time its death was male known, and the mother states that Samborn killed her babe by first striking it on the head with a hammer handle and afterwards chokling it. She says:—

He said the doctors told him he same thing, that he had come in with the intention of quiting the child live and his brother william lold him the same thing, that he had come in with the intention of quiting the child out of the way; he asked if there was anything in the room that he could kill with and soon pulled back the cursue, pleted up the hammer and with the back level, but the period of the country of the livest of the celebrated microscopist, was introduced at the trial and testified in reference to a piece of the dead initial's scaling the manner of the investigation, the Doctor testified, as the result of his examination, that antemorem violence had been inflicted upon the scalp, and that the eachymeels, or clotted blood, visible on the scalp was caused by such violence. A number of other physicians have testified and they appear to think that the child was struke on the head before it died. The case is said on trial and is the subject of the manner of the hidden control of the head before it died. The case is said on trial and is the subject of the manner of the hidden control of the case is a subject on the control of the dead initiality.

and Aux Cayes are to be attacked, and the latter place is said to be ready to yield. Before the bombardment of Jeremie Sainave had an interview with the Consuls and gave them the necessary time to remove persons and property. The various flags, however, were flying over the consulates all the time. The inhabitants of Jeremie are without water, it having been cut off by the besieging force, and the women are in full revolt.

It is reported here that the Cacos have made an attack on Gonaves, and that General Chovalier, commanding that pince, has sent here for reinforcements. It is also stated that the government troops have made an attack on the headquarters of the revolutionary army at the bridge of Miragone, but were requised with heavy loss.

The police here have arrested three Frenchmen, who are accused of issuing counterfeit Haytien bills. A great quantity is in circulation, principally \$100 notes. The government has informed the merchants here that it is its intention to purchase all the corfee hereafter, and requested them to ship such as they have lu store, in order that the government depot shall be the only one existing.

I make the following extracts from a correspond-ance dated at Jaumel, October 9. They may be regarded as embodying an ahti-Salnave view of the situation there:—

The repuellean general, Michel Domanguez, has